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A CONFLAGRATION.

Jacksonville, Fla., is Almost
Completely Wiped Out
in Four Hours.

STRONG WIND AIDED FIRE

IT RAPIDLY SPREAD AND WAS
SOON BEYOND CONTROL.Buildings Blown Up by Dynamite to
Check Flames but Even This Was Use-
less—Millions Called Out—An Area Two
and a Half Miles Long and a Half Mile
Wide Burned Over—Municipal Build-
ings, Court House, City Jail, Hotels,
Churches, Schools and Other Fine
Structures Destroyed—Loss Estimated
at from Ten to Fifteen Millions.Jacksonville, Fla., May 4, 1 A. M.—
The most disastrous fire in the history
of this city began yesterday shortly
after noon in a small factory from a de-
fective flue and burned for ten hours,
the greatest damage being done with-
in four hours after the fire started. In
that time a property damage estimated
from \$10,000,000 to \$15,000,000 was
caused.According to the city map one hun-
dred and thirty blocks were burned,
many of them in the heart of the busi-
ness and residence section. The esti-
mate of houses to the block is ten,
hence thirteen hundred of them went
up in smoke. Many of the fine public
and private buildings were destroyed,
including hotels, theatres, churches and
residences.The casualties cannot be accurately
estimated to-night. That there were
several seems to be well authenticated.
Among them was that to the fire chief,
who sustained a bad fall. The mayor
ordered all of the saloons closed and
has impressed help to clear the wreck.
Mayor Bowden at 1 o'clock this morn-
ing says the property loss will exceed
\$15,000,000. Ten to fifteen thousand peo-
ple are homeless. The situation is one
approaching devastation in a large sec-
tion of the city. The width of the de-
vasted area is thirteen blocks. Within
this space practically everything is
blackened ruins.At 10.15 o'clock the fire was under con-
trol, having practically burned itself
out. The suburban settlements, with
the exception of La Villa, are intact.
La Villa was badly hurt. The extent of
the damage cannot be told until to-mor-
row. Thousands of persons are on the
streets to-night homeless with practi-
cally all their worldly possessions on
their backs. The depots of the railroads
situated in the southeastern section
have been turned into temporary lodg-
ing houses and hospitals. Luckily the
weather is fine so that there will be no
suffering on that score.Meetings of the city council, the com-
mercial bodies and the charitable in-
stitutions will be called Saturday morn-
ing to devise ways and means for meet-
ing the situation. It is hoped that an ap-
peal can be avoided.

First Details of the Fire.

Jacksonville, Fla., May 3.—Jackson-
ville experienced to-day the most dis-
astrous fire of her existence. The build-
ings on the entire length of Beaver
street, from Davis street to the creek
on Liberty street, have been totally de-
stroyed. This is fourteen solid blocks
of residences. For the same distance
Ashley and Church streets have both
been completely blotted out. When the
fire reached Bridge street in its east-
ward course it enveloped in flames three
blocks bounded by Duval, Monroe and
the north side of Adams streets, burn-
ing up that entire section of the city
and running fourteen blocks to the Du-
val street bridge.How much further in that direction
the city is burned it is impossible to
learn, the street being impassable. But
it is feared that St. Luke's hospital was
burned, a report reaching the city that
the Presbyterian church in East Jack-
sonville is ablaze.If this is correct the fire must have
extended five blocks further east. The
conflagration has burned over, as far as
is definitely known, a distance of two
and a half miles long by a half mile
wide.At Julia street the fire was a roaring
furnace, without any prospect of being
put under control.The local military companies were
called out to keep back the crowds. The
fire department began to use dynamite
to blow up the houses a block from the
fire and thus prevent the fire from
spreading. So fierce was the blaze,
however, and so strong had become the
wind that millions of sparks and flying
burning shingles spread over five or six
blocks, setting the roofs of the houses
on fire in advance of the department.
Desperate efforts were made to save
the Windsor and the St. James hotels,
but both were quickly enveloped in
flames. For about an hour the guests
in the Windsor had been busily engaged
packing their trunks and went away
loaded with trunks and grips, some un-
fortunately to the United States hotel,
but most of them to Riverside.Leaping madly across the street from
the Windsor, the flames set fire to Zilli's
house and then the Methodist parson-
age. A few moments later the Trinity
M. E. church was a mass of flames.
The opera house block followed and the
Richards and Livingstone harding-
houses. A desperate effort was made to
save the Baldwin mansion, which was
recently purchased by the Elks for \$18-
000. No earthly power could save this
building and that entire block and the
one west of it were quickly a mass of
flames. Once the fire got started onMain street, the closely adjoining build-
ings went one after the other. Paint
shops with barrels of oil in stock were
plentiful in this district, and as they
caught fire one after the other the blaze
rose hundreds of feet high and quickly
set the other buildings across the street
on fire. Then the Hubbard hardware
store caught and the people scattered
when they saw what had happened.
Hundreds of pounds of powder and a
great deal of dynamite were stored in
this building.Ten minutes passed when suddenly
there was a roar and the building col-
lapsed like an eggshell. The dynamite
and the powder had exploded.The firemen at this time were work-
ing in great danger. Cartridges began
to explode and bullets began to fly
around, so the effort to fight the fire at
this point for a time had to be aban-
doned. This was only the start of the
most intense part of the fire. The new
Furchgott building was soon ablaze and
soon the Gardiner building was also a
mass of flames.Down the street the fire spread with
rapidity and in a short time the entire
section of Bay street from Market to
Main streets, and extending for five
blocks back, was burning all at the
same time.The city building went, the fire de-
partment building, the armory, the
county court house, the clerk's office
with the county records, the criminal
court house, the city jail and the grad-
ed schools and the Catholic church and
orphanage, St. John's Episcopal church
and the convent. Almost the entire city
of magnificent buildings was burned up
in less than four hours. The scene was
one that beggars description.At 8:30 p. m. the fire was checked at
the intersection of Laurel and Bay
streets, where the Commercial bank
went up in flames. The Western Union
building just across the street was not
damaged.Among the prominent hotels burned
were the St. James, the United States,
the Placide and the Windsor.

POPULATION OF LONDON.

Now \$526,034—An Increase of 308,717
Since the Last Census.London, May 3.—The population of
London, including the city of London
and twenty-eight metropolitan bor-
oughs, the whole forming what is term-
ed the administrative county of London,
is now 4,526,034. This is an increase of
308,717 since the last census in 1891. Ac-
cording to the first installment of cen-
sus returns issued by the registrar gen-
eral to-night, sixty-four English and
Welsh boroughs show increases. Bath,
Chester and Huddersfield show de-
creases. The borough of Westham, with an
increase of 62,405, is the largest increase
recorded.

MORGAN GIVES 50,000 FRANCES.

The Great Financier's Gift to a French
Hospital.Aix-Les-Bains, France, May 3.—J.
Pierpont Morgan has donated fifty
thousand francs to the local hospital,
and the municipality has marked its
appreciation of the gift by presenting
him with a magnificent bouquet in-
scribed: "The town of Aix-Les-Bains
to J. Pierpont Morgan, chevalier of the
Legion of Honor, in recognition of his
generous gift of fifty thousand francs
to the new municipal hospital." Mr.
Morgan and Andrew Carnegie have had
several conferences.

UNCLAIMED CHINESE PROPERTY.

Taken by British Troops and Sold for
Benefit of All.London, May 3.—The Indian secre-
tary, Lord George Hamilton, answering
a question in the House of Commons
to-day, said General Gaselee had stop-
ped the British troops from looting at
Pekin, but the general had authorized
parties to bring in unclaimed property
from deserted houses in districts occu-
pied by the British. Such property
was subsequently sold for the benefit
of all. "This action, in my judgment,"
said the secretary, "was proper and ju-
dicious."

CHINESE INDEMNITY.

French Foreign Office Corrects Former
Figures.Paris, May 3.—The French foreign
office corrects the figures of the inden-
nity to be demanded from China. As
first announced, the amount Cuba is to
pay was fixed at 1,365,000,000 francs
(\$273,000,000). The amount should have
been 1,655,000,000 francs (\$331,000,000).
However, this amount yet may be re-
duced. These figures provide for ex-
penses up to July 1.

BRITISH AGENT AGAIN OUSTED.

Korean Government Orders Him to Re-
linquish Control of Customs.Seoul, Korea, May 3.—The Korean
government has revised its action in
the matter of McLeavy Brown and has
ordered him to leave his residence and
relinquish the control of Korean cus-
toms. The representative of Great Brit-
ain in Korea is actively moving in the
matter.

CONDEMNED TO DEATH.

Two German Soldiers Who Killed Two
Innocent Chinese.Tien Tsin, May 3.—Sergeant Bret-
schneider and Trooper Janisch, of the
German cavalry, have been condemned
to death for the murder of two inno-
cent Chinese while doing patrol duty in
December at Pao Ting Fu. They await
execution, pending Emperor William's
sanction.

12,338 at the Exposition.

Buffalo, N. Y., May 3.—The number
of persons who passed through the turn-
stiles to-day, including workmen with
passes was 12,338.

VERDICT IN RATHBUN CASE

ACCUSED FOUND GUILTY OF MUR-
DER IN SECOND DEGREE.Sentenced to Prison for Life—Jury Was
Out Almost Four Hours—Scene in the
Court Room When the Sentence Was
Imposed—Prisoner's Children Not
With Her.Last evening at 7:20 o'clock the jury
in the Rathbun case returned, having
been out since 3:25, and found the ac-
cused guilty of murder in the second
degree, and ten minutes later Judge El-
mer sentenced her to state's prison for
the rest of her natural life. She was
charged with murdering her husband,
William Rathbun, on the morning of
December 21 last.Thus ended one of the most sensa-
tional and at the same time interesting
criminal cases ever tried in this state.
The mere fact that the prisoner was
a woman and that she was charged
with murder in the first degree, hav-
ing been so indicted by the grand jury,
made the case one of record in the an-
nals of Connecticut, for if she had been
convicted on the original count she
would have been the first woman in
the history of the state that had ever
been found guilty of murder in the first
degree, and therefore the first to have
been put to death for a crime. It was
these facts, and the sensational evi-
dence that was offered all through the
trial and the remarkable chain of cir-
cumstances in connection with Mrs.
Ann Maria Rathbun that made the case
and the state famous.Never was there a more interested
crowd of spectators in the New Haven
court than that of yesterday afternoon
and evening, and even after the jury
had been out for hours there were hun-
dreds in the court room and in the gal-
lery, and it is safe to say that if the
jury had remained out all night the
number of people would have been large
when an agreement was reached.The rap on the jury room door was
heard at 7:19, and immediately there
was a hustle and bustle in the court
room. Word was sent to the state's at-
torney, to the judge, to the attorneys
for the defense and to the sheriff, who
was in charge of Mrs. Rathbun in one
of the side rooms of the court building.Spectators in the gallery began to move
down and those in the corridors edged
their way into the court room and got
the best seats they could. The judge
and the attorneys soon entered, and
then the jury emerged from their pen
behind the judge, and her walk was un-
derstandably slow. The judge then
made no particular expression on his
face to denote anything. Clerk Gallagher
called out six of their names, and then
the state's attorney interrupted him,
for the prisoner was not in the room.
The door of the court room was open-
ed the next instant, and Mrs. Rathbun
was escorted to her customary seat
near her attorneys. She was veiled
heavily in black and her walk was un-
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JURY PACKING IN IRELAND.

A Bitter Debate in the Commons—Ac-
cused Made.London, May 3.—In the House of
Commons to-day Thomas Power
O'Connor (Irish nationalist), member
for the Scotland division of Liverpool,
opened a fierce debate on the Irish
question by moving to reduce the sal-
ary of the attorney general for Ireland,
asserting that not only was jury-pack-
ing one of the most flagrant evils of
legal administration in Ireland, but that
the whole system was "calculated to
produce abrogation of law and to sup-
press individual and national liberty."
Among many citations he brought up
the case of Patrick A. McHugh (mem-
ber for the north division of Leitrim),
who was imprisoned because of editor-
ial comments he had made in the Sligo
Champion.John Atkinson, attorney general for
Ireland, replied that it would be a farce
to try members of the United Irish
league by a jury composed of members
of the league, men who, he asserted,
regarded the law of the league as high-
er than the law of the land. He point-
ed out that juries were selected by the
crown in order to secure impartiality,
and declared that Catholics were not
refused as jurors because of their be-
lieving Catholics. It was his own duty,
he insisted, to take advantage of all means
to remove from the jury box men who
had been tutored to believe that serious
crime was not crime.Sir Edward James Reed (liberal) said
the attorney general for Ireland had
admitted the practice of jury-packing
on a large scale. Many members took
part in the debate, among them T. W.
Russell, who said he had been packed
on a jury—a remark which provoked
Patrick O'Brien to exclaim: "I was
packed in jail for saying you were
packed." Mr. Russell: "No one need
tell me that juries are not packed in
Ireland, for I have seen through the
operation myself." Mr. O'Connor's mo-
tion was rejected by a vote of 173 to
105.

DR. HERRON DID NOT COME.

Rev. W. F. Brown Addressed Socialists
in His Stead.Rev. William T. Brown of Rochester,
N. Y., a graduate of Yale college in the
class of 1890, and Yale divinity school
'95, occupied the rostrum in Music hall
last night in the place of Rev. Dr.
George D. Herron, who was to have
spoken there under the auspices of the
social democratic party. Rev. Mr.
Brown's utterances were of the radical
type and well calculated to stir up
strong feeling among his hearers.It will be remembered that Rev. Mr.
Brown figured as principal in a heresy
trial at Madison, Conn., several years
ago, and was triumphantly acquitted.
It is said that as a consequence he se-
cured his present position in Rochester,
N. Y., at a much higher salary. He was
introduced by the chairman, Eugene
Tomney, who said that the Rev. Mr.
Herron was not present on account of
severe illness.

FOR YALE CREW COACHING.

Leonard D. Pike of Hartford Loans His
Fine New Yacht.The Yale navy has secured for the
rest of the season the use in crew coach-
ing a fine new yacht owned by Leonard
D. Pike of Hartford, manager of the
Daniels' mills in Hartford. The old
Yale launch is going to pieces, and is
not in a condition for service. The kind-
ness of Mr. Pike in loaning his yacht
is therefore greatly appreciated. The
boat is one of the fastest on Long Is-
land sound. She is new and a fifty-
footer, with a speed of eighteen or
twenty miles an hour. Mr. Pike, the
owner, who has kindly permitted the
Yale navy to use the boat, is a brother
of Mr. Pike, proprietor of the Bran-
ford Driving park. W. D. Bushnell
has given the use of his yacht for the
coaching of the freshman crew.

THE EASTMAN TRIAL

Compelled to Adjourn Because of the
Illness of a Juror.Cambridge, Mass., May 3.—An ad-
verse decision on the prosecution's at-
tempt to introduce the defendant's tes-
timony before the grand jury which in-
dicted him brought the government's
case against Eastman, the Harvard in-
structor charged with the murder of
his brother-in-law, to a sudden close
this morning, but before the defense
could outline the whole of its case the
illness of one of the jury made post-
ponement necessary until to-morrow
morning.The decision of the court in exclud-
ing Eastman's grand jury testimony was
not unexpected, for this was the
second time that the government has
sought to introduce it. If the juror, E.
F. Grant, of Westford, Mass., is able
to appear in court to-morrow morning Mr.
Bartlett will finish his argument for
the defense and the evidence of the de-
fense will begin.

To Admit Teachers from Cuba.

Boston, May 3.—In the house to-day
Mr. Luce introduced a resolution which
authorizes the state board of education
to receive into the normal schools of
the commonwealth such a number of
properly qualified teachers, or intended
teachers, from Porto Rico, Cuba and
the Philippines as they may decree ex-
pedient. Mr. Luce offered the resolve
at the request of President Capen, of
Tufts college.

Many Italians Coming.

Rome, May 3.—Forty thousand Italian
emigrants, according to the Fanfulla,
are booked to leave for the United
States this month.

CIVIL GOVERNMENT BEGINS

ESTABLISHED BY COMMISSION IN
MANILA YESTERDAY.Experiment of Elections Not to be Tried
However, for the Present—The Popu-
lation of Manila Announced as 234-
732—Census Taken by the Board of
Health.Manila, May 3.—Civil government in
Manila was established to-day as a pre-
liminary to the inauguration of a gen-
eral civil government. The United
States Philippine commission is unwill-
ing at present to permit the experiment
of elections here, although they have
been authorized in all the other munic-
ipalities. Judge Taft says a municipal
government for Manila will shortly be
created. The officers will probably be
appointive. Lepanto and possibly all
the other uncivilized provinces will be
organized specially on a plan similar
to that adopted in the case of Benguet.
The board of health has completed the
census of Manila. The population num-
bers 244,732. The trial of Lieutenant
Boyer, charged with commissary irregu-
larities, has been completed. The ver-
dict has not been announced. The trial
of Captain Barrows on a similar charge
begins Monday.Washington, May 3.—It is expected
that within a day or two a programme
will be completed at the war depart-
ment for a substantial reduction of the
present strength of the United States
army in the Philippines.

THE MACHINISTS' MEETING.

They Will Try to Organize Machine
Hands at Winchester's.At a meeting held last night by the
Elm lodge, I. A. M., the machinists' or-
ganization, the situation of the machin-
ists in the Winchester Repeating Arms
company's factor was discussed and a
circular was issued in reply to the cir-
cular issued by that company to its
employees recently. The machinists' cir-
cular is addressed to the employees at
Winchester's and calls attention to the
issues by the company, and asserts that
it was accompanied by the discharge of
their shopmates. It asserts that this
was because the company fears the
union because by getting better wages,
shorter hours and better conditions for
the men it will reduce the company's
profits. In conclusion the circular con-
tains the following:The Winchester company has always
governed the greater part of your ex-
istence in accordance with their inter-
ests. They have even tried to direct
your political views and influence you
at election time. They now presume to
say you shall not attempt to protect
yourself. It is time for you to decide
whether they own you or not.Machinists! Attend the open meet-
ings and join the I. A. of M. Machine
hands join the allied metal trades and
bicycle workers, and take part in the
shorter workday movement. You should
not work longer hours than other
trades. You should have more than la-
borers' wages. You can only secure
both by organizing.Members of the machinists' union
said after the meeting last night that
an effort would be made at once to or-
ganize the machine hands, assemblers,
screw machine hands and others, em-
ployed at the Winchester factory into a
branch of the allied Metal Workers and
Bicycle Workers' union. They said
that of the four men recently discharged
at Winchester's three had already
secured positions elsewhere and that
the fourth man was conducting a store
and did not desire to return to machine
work.An open meeting will be held by the
machinists May 13, probably at St.
Aloysius hall, at which time it is ex-
pected that J. J. Connolly, an officer of
the grand lodge, will be present and
speak. It was said last night that a
large number of the employees of the
Winchester company were present at
the meeting of the Machinists' union at
which the circular was issued.

SHARKEY DEFEATS RUSSELL.

Latter Knocked Out in Fourth Round
After a Hard Fight.Denver, May 3.—Tom Sharkey and
Fred Russell, the California heavy-
weight, met in the arena of the Col-
orado A. A. here to-night before an au-
dience that taxed the capacity of the
club house. Both men had trained
faithfully for the past month, and
when they stepped into the ring ap-
peared to be in perfect condition.
Sharkey was a prime favorite up to
the sound of the gong at odds of 5 to 2.
Sharkey tipped the beam at 102
pounds and Russell at 205 pounds. Both
men were examined by the club physi-
cian, and pronounced strong and in
perfect health, and fit to engage in
the worst kind of a rough and tumble
fight.Frank Cullen was decided on at the
last moment as the referee for the fight.
He declared all bet off, in order, as he
announced, to protect the club and its
patrons. It was rumored that there
would be an agreement of some sort.
Round—Sharkey missed left wing.
They clinched. Sharkey missed anoth-
er left; they broke slowly. Sharkey
landed light left on head as Russell
rushed in. Both swung wildly and
clashed. They rushed again to a clinch.
Russell landed right hard on body. They
clinched. Sharkey put right to back
of head in clinch three times. They
wrestled. Russell landing on top. Rus-
sell missed right swing and they clinch-
ed again, wrestling all over the ring.
As the gong sounded Sharkey hit Rus-
sell in the face. The crowd shouted
foul in great uproar. The foul was dis-
allowed.Round 2—Sharkey landed a hard up-
percut on the neck. They clinched.
Sharkey rushed in and landed right on
head. Russell landed right and left on
the face and in a clinch landed right
on the jaw, ducked a left swing. Rus-

AT HOWE & STETSON'S.

Seeley's orchestra to-night. New Haven, Conn., Saturday the fourth day of May.

Down Go the
Garment Prices.Profit and a part of cost lopped off purely be-
cause Old Sol has been sulking for the past thirty
days and umbrellas and mackintoshes have held
full sway. All that means a backward season for
us, and cloth garments must give way to shirt
waists. That's why prices tumble a third and a
half.\$10.00 to
\$16.50 Suits, Now \$7.45.\$15.00 to
\$20.00 Suits, Now \$10.98.\$20.00 to
\$25.00 Suits, Now \$16.50.\$25.00 to
\$32.50 Suits, Now \$19.98.

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From the agent of a prominent domestic man-
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At Half Price.

And when we say half price, it means half
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Scotch mixtures, mottled effects, stripes, checks,
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